

Rev. 04/01

PATENTS  
Docket No. FAN-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gary S. Fanton et al.  
Application No.: 10/782,489 Confirmation No.: 5632  
Filed : February 18, 2004  
For : APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR CLEARING  
OBSTRUCTIONS FROM SURGICAL CUTTING  
INSTRUMENTS  
Group Art Unit : 3763

Mail Stop Amendment  
Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR  
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Supplemental  
Information Disclosure Statement in the above-identified  
application. This Statement is submitted:

- ☐ [ ] within three months of the application filing date;
- ☒ [X] more than three months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to

charge payment of any fees required in connection with this  
Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account  
No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is  
transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas A. Oguss  
Registration No. 48,469  
Agent for Applicants

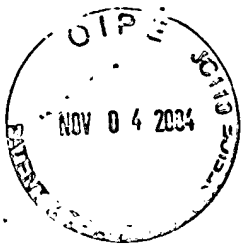
FISH & NEAVE LLP  
Customer No. 1473  
1251 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10020-1104  
Tel.: (650) 617-4000

I hereby Certify that this  
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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria,  
VA 22313-1450 on:

11-01-2004  
Date of Deposit

  
Lily Jiang

11-01-2004  
Date of Signature



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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98,  
applicants hereby make the following documents of record in  
the above identified application:\*

U.S. Patents

|             |         |               |
|-------------|---------|---------------|
| 6,749,613   | 06/2004 | Conchy et al. |
| 6,689,146   | 02/2004 | Himes         |
| 20040138687 | 07/2004 | Himes         |

Pursuant to the PTO's waiver of the requirement  
under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i), 1276 OG 55, applicants have

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\* Applicants reserve the right to challenge the status  
of any of the cited documents as prior art.

not submitted copies of the cited U.S. patent documents,  
which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that these documents  
be (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office  
during the examination of this application; and (2) printed  
on any patent that may issue on this application.

Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as  
considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with  
the next communication.

An early and favorable action is respectfully  
requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas A. Oguss  
Registration No. 48,469  
Agent for Applicants

FISH & NEAVE LLP  
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1251 Avenue of the Americas  
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Lily Jiang

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|  |  |                                    |                          |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449<br>NOV 04 2004<br>RECEIVED<br>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>FAN-1          | SERIAL NO.<br>10/782,489 |
|  | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT           | APPLICANT<br>Gary S. Fanton et al. |                          |
|  |  | FILING DATE<br>February 18, 2004   | GROUP<br>3763            |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIALS | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE    | NAME          | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------|---------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                      | 6,749,613          | 06/2004 | Conchy et al. |       |          |                               |
|                      | 6,689,146          | 02/2004 | Himes         |       |          |                               |
|                      | 20040138687        | 07/2004 | Himes         |       |          |                               |
|                      |                    |         |               |       |          |                               |
|                      |                    |         |               |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIALS | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|----------------------|--------------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|                      |                    |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|                      |                    |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|                      |                    |      |         |       |          |             |    |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| EXAMINER<br>INITIALS |  |
|----------------------|--|
|                      |  |
|                      |  |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.